

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDE-00 ERDA-07 AF-10  
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DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE:HL  
APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:PASANJUAN  
-----077691 241737Z /53

P 241628Z JUN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

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USSALTTWO, MOSCOW FOR AMB PAUL C. WARNKE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JUNE 24 PRESS ROUNDUP

1. NEW YORK TIMES IN EDITORIAL OBSERVED THAT "OLDEST  
FLOATING SOVIET-AMERICAN DISARMAMENT TALKS OF NUCLEAR ERA  
-- TO BAN ATOMIC EXPLOSIONS -- ARE UNDER WAY AGAIN. THAT  
COULD BE GOOD NEWS FOR MANKIND, IF OBJECTIVE IS ACHIEVED.  
BUT FIRST STEP IS TO BE CLEAR ON OBJECTIVE. IN FIRST ROUND  
OF TALKS IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEK, SOVIET UNION PROPOSED  
AGAIN TO HALT ATOMIC WEAPONS TESTS, WHILE RESERVING RIGHT  
TO CONDUCT SO-CALLED PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. UNITED  
STATES -- AND BRITAIN, WHICH IS TO JOIN SECOND ROUND OF  
TALKS IN GENEVA NEXT MONTH -- WANT TO BAN ALL ATOMIC EX-  
PLOSIONS. DIFFERENCE IS CRUCIAL. THERE IS NO WAY TO  
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DISTINGUISH BETWEEN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION,  
EVEN IF ONE AIMS TO KILL PEOPLE AND OTHER TO MOVE EARTH AND  
DIG CANALS. DEVICE AND BLAST ARE MORE OR LESS SAME. AND  
TEST EXPLOSIONS ARE ESSENTIAL TO WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT....  
MOSCOW ORIGINALLY INSISTED THAT ALL FIVE NUCLEAR POWERS  
MUST SIGN COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN, BUT IT HAS NOW AGREED TO  
PROCEED TEMPORARILY WITHOUT CHINA AND FRANCE, AS WASHINGTON

URGED. IN EFFECT, SOVIET UNION AND U.S. WOULD AGREE ON TEST BAN TREATY WITH RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL AFTER FEW YEARS IF THEY ARE UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING AGREEMENT OF OTHER KEY NATIONS -- WITH NEAR UNIVERSALITY ULTIMATE GOAL. HALT IN SO-CALLED PEACEFUL TESTING FOR SAME PERIOD, PENDING JOINT STUDIES OF PROBLEM, COULD ACHIEVE COMPROMISE ON THIS ISSUE. BUT, IF MOSCOW CAN BE PERSUADED, IT WOULD BE FAR BETTER TO BAN ALL TESTS UNEQUIVOCALLY."

2. NEW YORK TIMES PUBLISHED REUTER DISPATCH FROM PARIS QUOTING PRIME MINISTER RAYMOND BARRE AS RULING OUT STATIONING OF FRENCH ATOMIC WEAPONS OUTSIDE FRANCE. FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS COME UNDER PRESSURE FROM WEST GERMANY, DISPATCH SAID, TO MOVE ITS PLUTON 20-KILOTON TACTICAL NUCLEAR MISSILES -- MOUNTED ON AMX-30 TANKS AND HAVING RANGE OF UP TO 93 MILES -- NEARER WARSAW PACT FRONTIER. AT PRESENT, PLUTONS ARE STATIONED IN EASTERN FRANCE.

3. BERNARD WEINRAUB OF NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED THAT MAJOR POLICY REVIEW IN CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS CONCLUDED THAT EFFORTS TO SEND AMERICAN DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA WOULD "STIFFEN SOVIET POSITIONS" TOWARD U.S., RESULT IN SHARP DETERIORATION OF AMERICAN-SOVIET TIES, AND INCREASE TENSION BETWEEN MOSCOW AND PEKING. WEINRAUB SAID POLICY REVIEW MEMORANDUM NO. 24, "ONE OF MOST CLOSELY HELD DOCU-UNCLASSIFIED

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MENTS IN ADMINISTRATION," HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF "INTENSE DEBATE AND SOME FRICTION IN CARTER ADMINISTRATION." HE SAID WARNING ABOUT AMERICAN-SOVIET RELATIONS BECAME KNOWN AS ADMINISTRATION BARRED CONTROL DATA CORPORATION OF MINNEAPOLIS FROM SELLING ADVANCED WEATHER SYSTEM TO SOVIET UNION (ABSENCE OF SATISFACTORY SAFEGUARDS TO DETECT AND PREVENT DIVERSION OF SYSTEM TO MILITARY PURPOSES WAS CITED AS REASON FOR DENYING EXPORT LICENSE TO MANUFACTURER OF 13 MILLION DOLLAR CYBER 76, ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTED.) WEINRAUB SAID SOME KEY FIGURES INVOLVED IN STUDY "ARE KNOWN TO DISAGREE SERIOUSLY WITH POSITION OF DOCUMENT -- WHICH ESSENTIALLY OPPOSES SALE OF MILITARY TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA -- AND CONTEND THAT PAPER FAILS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT POTENTIAL DIPLOMATIC ADVANTAGES THAT COULD BE GAINED BY U.S. IN TERMS OF SOVIET UNION IF U.S. SELLS MILITARY ITEMS IN CHINA. WHAT WAS DISCUSSED IN HIGH-LEVEL POLICY WORKING GROUP -- AND THEN OMITTED IN DOCUMENT -- IS USE OF SO-CALLED 'CHINA CARD' STRATEGY ADVOCATED BY SOME CHINA SPECIALISTS. THIS STRATEGY SEEKS TO ACCELERATE DIPLOMATIC AND MILITARY LINKS TO CHINA IN ORDER TO USE CHINA TO OFF-SET SOVIET POWER AND GAIN SOME LEVERAGE OVER MOSCOW IN STRATEGIC ARMS TALKS." WEINRAUB SAID DOCUMENT, "STAMPED

SECRET, WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO NEW YORK TIMES." WEINRAUB REPORTED THAT ONE PARTICIPANT IN STUDY ASSERTED BRZEZINSKI HAD SAID RECENTLY THAT SALE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO CHINA WAS "IMMEDIATE POLICY QUESTION," COMMENT THAT WENT BEYOND EARLIER STATEMENTS ON ISSUE BY POLICY-MAKERS AND BUOYED SUPPORTERS OF MILITARY TECHNOLOGY ARRANGEMENT WITH CHINA."

4. WASHINGTON POST'S WALTER PINCUS REPORTED THAT PENTAGON IS PROCEEDING "IN GREAT SECRECY" TOWARD PRODUCTION OF NEUTRON "KILLER" SHELLS FOR ITS NUCLEAR ARTILLERY IN EUROPE. HE QUOTED INFORMED CRITIC OF PROGRAM AS SAYING "WE ARE MOVING BATTLEFIELD NEUTRON FORCE." PINCUS SAID "THIS DEVELOPMENT HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN REVEALED. IT WAS DISCLOSED EARLIER THIS MONTH THAT PENTAGON INTENDED TO PRODUCE NEUTRON WARHEAD FOR ITS LAND-BASED MISSILE, UNCLASSIFIED

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LANCE. IT IS NOW KNOWN THAT PRODUCTION OF SIMILAR PROJECTILE FOR ARTILLERY FORCES ONLY AWAITS CONGRESSIONAL FUNDING AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S APPROVAL. NEW WARHEADS WOULD BE FIRED FROM EIGHT-INCH AND 155-MILLIMETER HOWITZERS." PENTAGON PRESS SPOKESMAN THOMAS ROSS SAID "THIS IS MATTER OF LEGITIMATE HIGH CLASSIFICATION" AND "THERE WOULD BE NO COMMENT." PINCUS SAID OPPONENT OF NEW WEAPONS HAVE BEEN LIMITED IN THEIR ABILITY TO DEBATE MATTER PUBLICLY BECAUSE OF CLASSIFICATION. SOURCE TOLD PINCUS "IT'S ALL 'Q' MATERIAL." PINCUS OBSERVED THAT "NO ONE YESTERDAY COULD EXPLAIN WHY ENHANCED RADIATION WAR-HEAD FOR LANCE WAS DECLASSIFIED WHILE THOSE FOR EIGHT-INCH AND 155 -MILLIMETER NEUTRON SHELLS WERE NOT." CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009